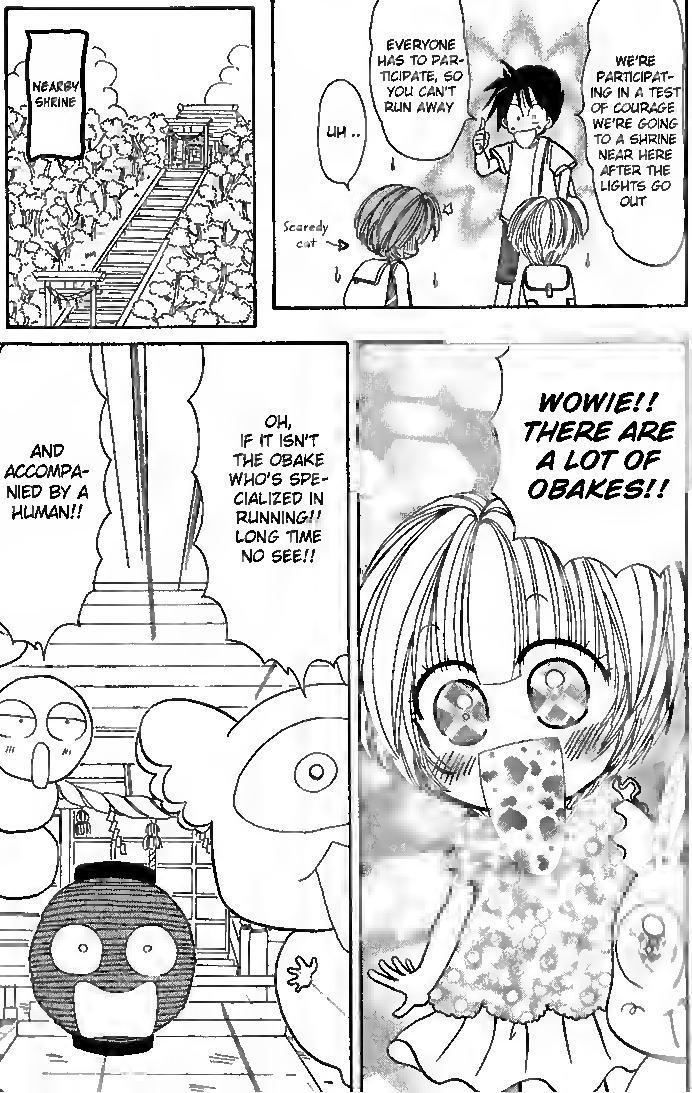
ぴよん
第5話

Vrrooom
TODAY HE IS LEAVING FOR HIS SCHOOL'S SUMMER CAMP.
WAN (8), THE MAIN CHARACTER'S OLDER BROTHER.
ALRIGHT!
I WON'T HAVE TO BABYSIT FOR 2 DAYS.
DID PYON-CHAN MAKE A FUSS OVER YOU GOING AWAY BY YOURSELF?
SHE DID ACTUALLY.
I wanna gooooo! It's not fair that only you and Kazuo get to go!
SHE CLUNG ONTO MY BACKPACK UNTIL I REACHED THE DOOR AND BITTERLY REPROACHED ME.

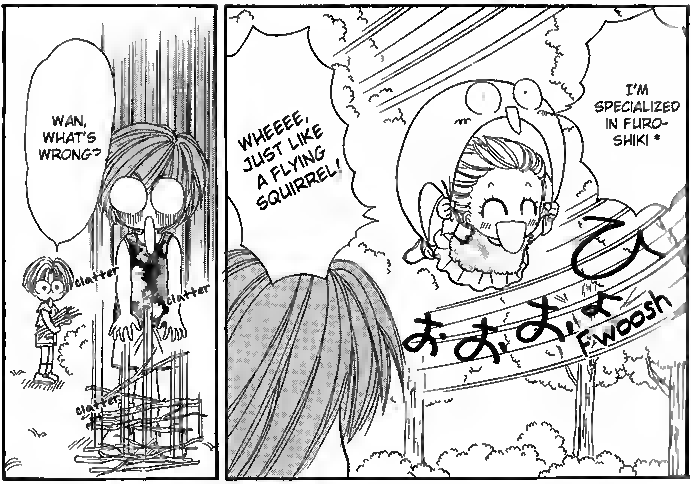
FWOOSH
THERE ARE NO KIDS HER AGE NEARBY TO PLAY WITH, SO SHE MUST FEEL LONELY.
BUT IT'S IRRITATING WHEN SHE ALWAYS WANTS TO COME ALONG.
Yaaay, it's the sea!
whissh
Swish
すば
.....
WHAT'S WRONG?
I... I THINK I SAW SOMETHING WEIRD...
RUB
RUB
RUB

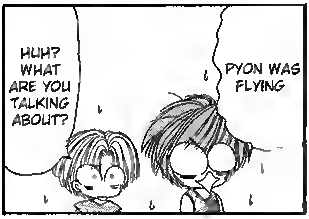
AN OBAKE MEETING?! IS THERE GOING TO BE A LOT OF OBAKES LIKE YOU, PACHI-CHAN?!
IT'S NOT MANDATORY, SO I DON'T KNOW IF THERE ARE GOING TO BE A LOT OR NOT.
I HAVE BEEN MISSING IT MYSELF.
NO, MY FINAL DESTINATION IS THE TEMPLE AT THE TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN. THERE'S AN OBAKE MEETING OVER THERE.
PACHI-CHAN, DID YOU COME HERE TO SWIM IN THE OCEAN? WAN AND KAZUO ARE CAMPING NEAR THE SEA TOO!!
Maybe they'll be there if we search for them
WE'VE FINALLY ARRIVED!
Yay
Yay
Yay
EVERYONE, SET UP THE TENTS FIRST.
DASH
A LOT OF OBAKES!! LET'S HURRY!!
WHAT'S WRONG, WAN?
NOTHING... I THOUGHT I HEARD PYON'S VOICE.
WAN, KAZUO, YOU 3RD GRADERS ARE CAMPING FOR THE FIRST TIME, RIGHT?
OH YOU'RE NIBOSHI FROM 6TH GRADE.

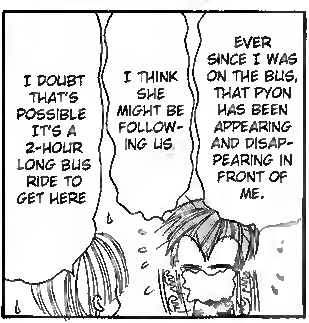

NEARBY SHRINE
WE'RE PARTICIPATING IN A TEST OF COURAGE WE'RE GOING TO A SHRINE NEAR HERE AFTER THE LIGHTS GO OUT
EVERYONE HAS TO PARTICIPATE, SO YOU CAN'T RUN AWAY
UH ..
Scaredy cat
WOWIE!! THERE ARE A LOT OF OBAKES!!
OH, IF IT ISN'T THE OBAKE WHO'S SPECIALIZED IN RUNNING!! LONG TIME NO SEE!!
AND ACCOMPANIED BY A HUMAN!!

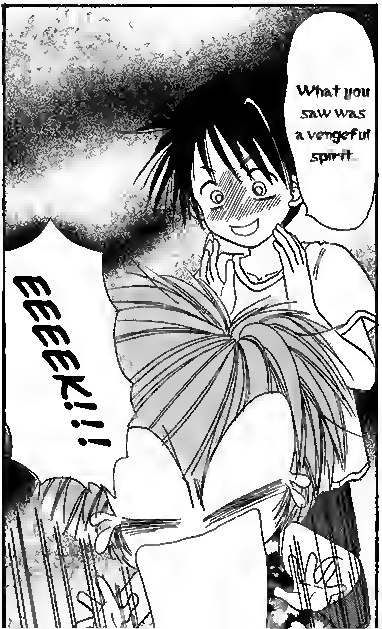
GOOD MORNING.
THIS IS PYON-CHAN. I LIVE WITH HER NOW
AND WHO IS THIS YOUNG LADY?
WELL, IF I DON'T SHOW MY FACE ONCE IN A WHILE, YOU'LL FORGET ABOUT ME, RIGHT?
WHY DID YOU COME ALL OF A SUDDEN?
STARTING FROM THE BACK, THERE'S THE PAPER LANTERN, ANIMAL FEET, COOLNESS, AND LAUGHING SPECIALIZATIONS
WHAT'S THE SPECIALIZATION OF THESE OBAKES?
IT'S MY FIRST TIME COOKING RICE IN A CAMP
WE ONLY HAVE TO GATHER FIREWOOD THOUGH
THAT'S UNFAIR, INTRODUCE US TOO!
yay
yay
yay
I... DON'T QUITE GET IT, BUT IT'S FUN THAT THERE ARE SO MANY OF YOU

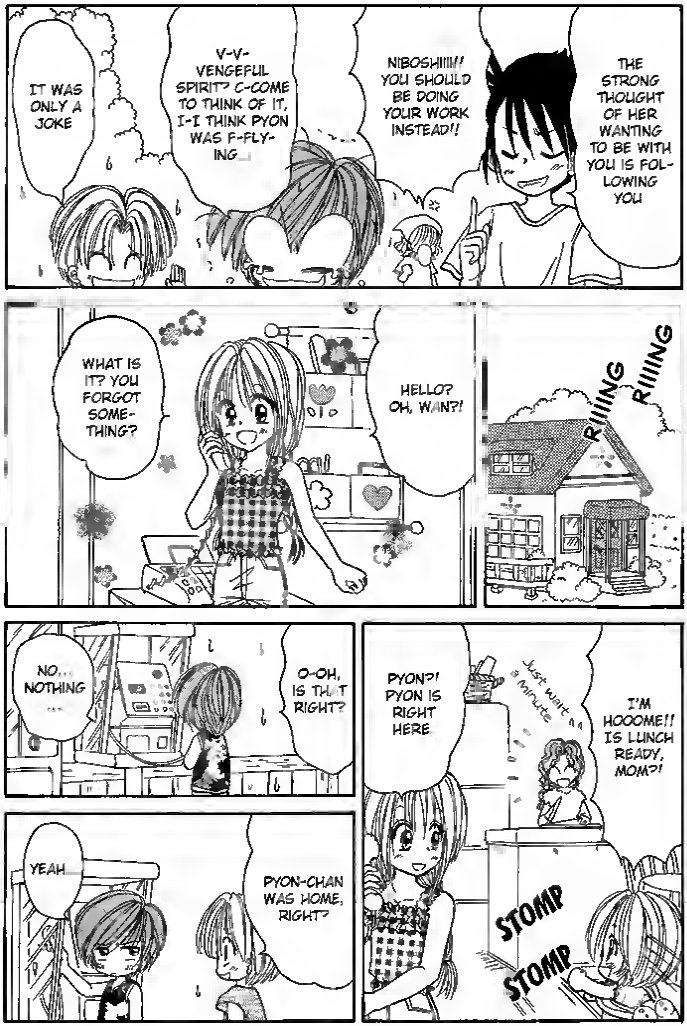
*T/N: TRADITIONAL JAPANESE CLOTH WRAPPING

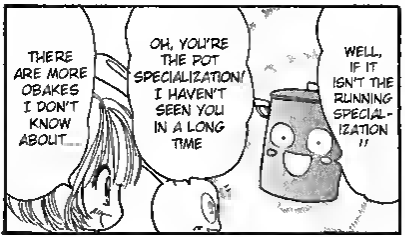


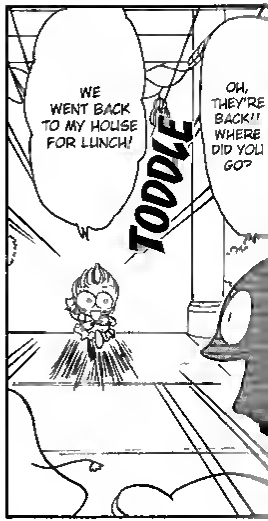


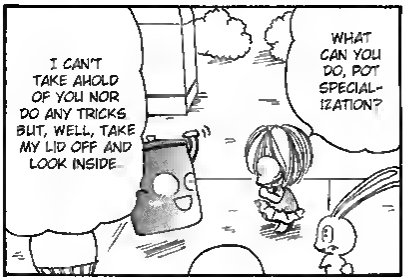

EVER SINCE I WAS ON THE BUS, THAT PYON HAS BEEN APPEARING AND DISAP-PEARING IN FRONT OF ME.
I THINK SHE MIGHT BE FOLLOW-ING US.
I DOUBT THAT'S POSSIBLE IT'S A 2-HOUR LONG BUS RIDE TO GET HERE

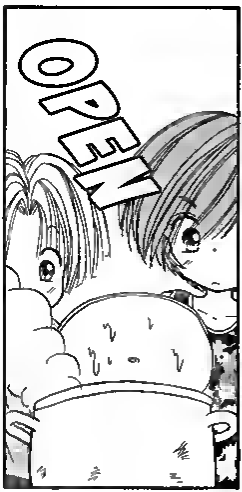



IT WAS ONLY A JOKE
V-V-VENGEFUL SPIRIT? C-COME TO THINK OF IT, I-I THINK PYON WAS F-FLY-ING...
NIBOSHIIII!! YOU SHOULD BE DOING YOUR WORK INSTEAD!!
THE STRONG THOUGHT OF HER WANTING TO BE WITH YOU IS FOL-LOWING YOU
WHAT IS IT? YOU FORGOT SOME-THING?
HELLO? OH, WAN?!
RIIIING RIIIING
NO... NOTHING ...
O-OH, IS THAT RIGHT?
PYON?! PYON IS RIGHT HERE
Just wait a minute
I'M HOOOME!! IS LUNCH READY, MOM?!
YEAH
PYON-CHAN WAS HOME, RIGHT?
STOMP
STOMP


THERE ARE MORE OBAKES I DON'T KNOW ABOUT...
OH, YOU'RE THE POT SPECIALIZATION! I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN A LONG TIME
WELL, IF IT ISN'T THE RUNNING SPECIALIZATION !!

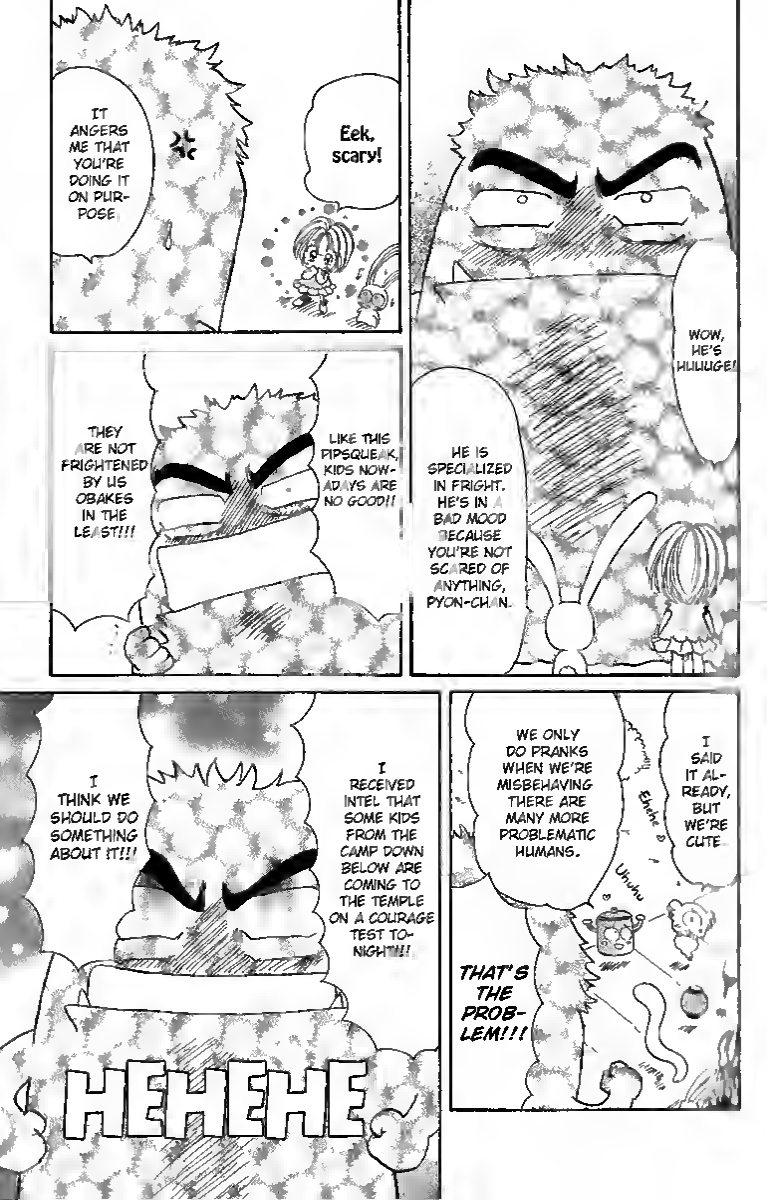

WE WENT BACK TO MY HOUSE FOR LUNCH!
TODDLE
OH, THEY'RE BACK!! WHERE DID YOU GO?


I CAN'T TAKE AHOLD OF YOU NOR DO ANY TRICKS BUT, WELL, TAKE MY LID OFF AND LOOK INSIDE...
WHAT CAN YOU DO, POT SPECIALIZATION?


OPEN

WAN, KAZUO, PREPARE THE CURRY
YEEES!
THE RICE IS READY--

Hiiiiiiii!!
OH!!
IT'S WAN AND KAZUO!!
I SAW IT!! I SAW PYON-CHAN'S VENGEFUL SPIRIT TOO!!!
WHAT IS IT? WHAT HAPPENED?!
BAM
AAARGH !!
THUMP THUMP
IT'S FINALLY TIME FOR THE OBAKE GATHERING, BUT WE HAVEN'T CAUGHT UP AT ALL
I CAN LINK TO OTHER POTS LIKE ME
IT'S SO MUCH FUN
WAN AND KAZUO WERE THERE


Eek, scary!
IT ANGERS ME THAT YOU'RE DOING IT ON PURPOSE.
WOW, HE'S HUUUUGE!
HE IS SPECIALIZED IN FRIGHT. HE'S IN A BAD MOOD BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT SCARED OF ANYTHING, PYON-CHAN.
LIKE THIS PIPSQUEAK, KIDS NOWADAYS ARE NO GOOD!!
THEY ARE NOT FRIGHTENED BY US OBAKES IN THE LEAST!!!
I SAID IT ALREADY, BUT WE'RE CUTE.
Ehehe
Uruuu
WE ONLY DO PRANKS WHEN WE'RE MISBEHAVING THERE ARE MANY MORE PROBLEMATIC HUMANS.
THAT'S THE PROBLEM!!!
I RECEIVED INTEL THAT SOME KIDS FROM THE CAMP DOWN BELOW ARE COMING TO THE TEMPLE ON A COURAGE TEST TONIGHT!!!
I THINK WE SHOULD DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT!!!
HEHEHE

YOU'RE GOING TO SCARE THEM?! I WANT TO DO IT TOO!!
ME TOO!
AND ME!
I WANT TO WATCH TOO!
GEEZ, PLEASE STOP MAKING THESE STRANGE CALLS
ALRIGHT, EACH OF YOU WILL BE POSITIONED.
WON'T YOU GET IN TROUBLE IF YOU WENT OUT AT NIGHT TO PLAY?
I'LL PRETEND TO SLEEP AND THEN SILENTLY SNEAK AWAY
THEN I'LL GO WITH YOU I'M SPECIALIZED IN ILLUMINATION I'LL LIGHT THE NIGHT PATH SO YOU WON'T FALL
yay
yay
yay
PYON IS EATING HER DINNER NOW.
EVERYTHING IS NORMAL, SHE'S NOT MAD THAT YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE WHO WENT CAMPING
MUNCH
MUNCH
MUNCH
PYON, PLEASE TALK TO WAN, HE'S TALKING NONSENSE
WAN?
HELLO? WHAT'S UP?! ARE YOU FEELING LONELY THAT I'M NOT THERE?
THAT'S NOT IT, STUPID !!!

RIGHT, WAN!! THAT WAS AN ILLUSION, RIGHT?
THAT MUST BE IT!! THAT'S WHAT I THINK NOW!!
THAT MUST HAVE BEEN AN ILLUSION BORN FROM MY GUILTY FEELINGS OF LEAVING PYON BEHIND !!!
SAME OLD PYON.
S-SO WHAT HAPPENED?
SHE DIDN'T SEEM TO BE SENDING ANY WEIRD VIBES EITHER ...
DURING LIGHTS-OUT
mumble
mumble
mumble
THE 6TH GRADERS GO FIRST!! THOSE IN THE 3RD AND 4TH GRADE ARE IN THE MIDDLE AND THE 5TH GRADERS ARE IN THE REAR
DON'T WORRY!! WE'RE JUST WALKING TO THE TEMPLE AND COMING BACK!!
crowd
crowd
crowd
crowd
THEY'RE COMING! THEY'RE COMING!
HEEHEE
YOU BETCHA!! THIS TEST OF COURAGE HAS BEEN PASSED DOWN TO US FOR GENERATIONS IN TABI PRIMARY SCHOOL AND HAS EVEN BEEN KEPT A SECRET FROM THE TEACHERS IT'S AN OBLIGATORY EVENT!!
NIBOSHI, ARE WE REALLY GOING?
Shake
Shake
Shake

Obakeeee!
THUD
THUD
Eeeek!!!
POT?
thump
thump
WHAT... STUFFED ANIMAL?
WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS PRANK?!
MAYBE THE TEACHERS FOUND OUT ABOUT THE TEST AND THEY ARE TRICKING US?
WE'D NEVER BE SCARED OF SOME TOYS.
Tch
step
step
step
AHAHAHA
WE'RE NOT CUT OUT FOR THIS AFTER ALL.
YOU LACK SPIRIT!!!
WATCH AND LEARN!
OOGA BOOGA !!!
THUD

ぴょん

DANG IT!
ISN'T THERE AN OBAKE THAT CAN MAKE ONE OF THOSE KIDS SCARED ENOUGH TO PASS OUT?!!
THEY EVEN IGNORED THE FRIGHT SPECIALIZATION!!!
WOW!!

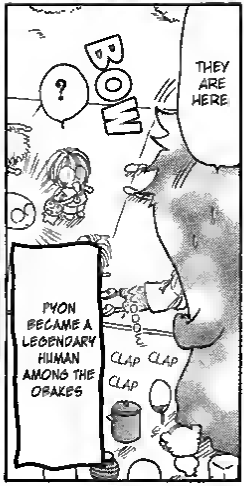
HEY, DID SOMEONE FALL?
I heard a loud thud.
LIGHT UP THE STEPS BETTER IT'S PITCH BLACK AND WE CAN'T SEE ANYTHING
Step Step Step

I WANT TO WATCH THE TEST OF COURAGE TOO!!
WOOOOW!! IT ALREADY STARTED !!!
WHOOSH
おおおお

DASH
したっ
HM? RUNNING SOUNDS?

HUH? WHAT HAPPENED TO EVERYONE? OH, WAN AND KAZUO ARE HERE...
.....
Twitch
Twitch
Twitch
AAAARGH
あああ
あああ

A FEW DAYS LATER
IT'S RUMORED THAT IN THIS TEMPLE THE SEVERED HEAD OF A GIRL APPEARED. THERE ARE NUMEROUS EYEWITNESS TESTIMONIES IN THE HIGHWAY NEAR...
WAN, ALL YOU DO IS READ BOOKS, LET'S PLAY!
AND WHOSE FAULT DO YOU THINK IT IS THAT I'M STUDYING THESE BOOKS I DON'T EVEN WANT TO READ?!!
AH...
OUT OF BODY EXPERIENCE
SPIRIT
DOPPELGÄNGER


THEY ARE HERE
BOW
?
PYON BECAME A LEGENDARY HUMAN AMONG THE OBAKES
CLAP CLAP CLAP

PYON / END

PYON

VOLUME 1 CHAPTER 5

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